

WE CLAIM:

1. An electronic identification system for operating a firearm provided with a safety latch, comprising:

a proximity device provided with a data source having at least one reference identification number stored therein, said proximity device further including a device for entering personal identification numbers therein;

a receiver associated with the firearm;

comparison means provided within said proximity device to compare said personal identification numbers with said reference identification number; and

transmission device provided with said proximity device for transmitting a signal from said proximity device to said receiver only if said personal identification number matches one of said reference identification numbers, said signal releasing the safety latch of the firearm, thereby allowing said firearm to be utilized.

2. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said proximity device and said receiver are each provided with an antenna for receiving and transmitting information.

3. The electronic identification system as in claim 1 in which the said means for entering said personal identification numbers is a data entry device integral to said data source.

4. The electronic identification system as in claim 1, powered by battery.

5. The electronic identification system as in claim 1, powered by solar cell.

6. The electronic identification system as in claim 1, powered through the antenna by electromagnetic coupling and rectification and thence to the circuits of said data source.

7. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 2, wherein said signal is transmitted from said proximity device to said receiver by radio frequency waves.

8. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 7, wherein said antennas are dipole antennas.

9. The electronic identification system as in claim 1 in which the said device for entering personal identification numbers is a data entry device integral to the said data source.

10. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 1, further including a timer initiated by the entry of said personal identification numbers, after a suitable period of time, said timer emitting a command which halts the functioning of said proximity device until there is a second entry of said personal identification numbers into said proximity device.

11. An electronic identification system, comprising:  
a portable device provided with a memory including stored data information, an input device for entering personal data information into said portable device, and a comparison device for comparing said stored data with said personal data information, and producing a first output signal only if said personal data information entered in said input device matches a number in said stored data information; and

a receiver for receiving said first output signal produced by said portable device, said receiver in physical contact with said portable device when receiving said first output signal, said receiver producing a second output signal to operate a device.

12. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said input device is a keyboard or keypad.

13. The electronic identification device in accordance with claim 11, further including a timer provided in said portable device initiated by the entry of said first data information, after a suitable period of time, said timer emitting a command which halts the functioning of said portable device until there is a second entry of the first data information into said portable device.

14. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said second output signal opens a portal to allow access to a protected area.

15. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said second output signal operates a solenoid.

16. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said second output signal operates a relay.

17. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said second output signal operates a switch.

18. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said portable device has a magnetic strip thereon and said receiver is provided with a magnetic swipe reader.

19. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 10, wherein said suitable period of time is adjustable by the user.

20. The electronic identification system in accordance with claim 13, wherein said suitable period of time is adjustable by the user.